

Saturday Gazette.

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TERMS.

Single subscription, 1 year, \$2, in advance.
Three Copies.
Club of 10 Copies 15
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PUBLIC OPINION.

In a short article, under the above caption, in our last issue, we made some observations on the origin of public opinion. If those remarks are not fresh in the memory of the present reader, we hope he will take the trouble to recur to that paper again, for the subject is one of momentous interest. It underlies the very principles of our republican institutions. Under an arbitrary government, be it remembered, public opinion attains only an imbecile, sickly development. There it rarely or never arrives at the body and form which secures it a recognition as a power in the land. It can only germinate in free soil, and thrive in a land of free thought and free speech, of free churches and free schools; and these are not tolerated by a despotic government. It lives and breathes, developing vigorous muscle and beautiful brain, only in the atmosphere of freedom. A Republic is its natural home.

Liberty—an open Bible and a constitutional government;—Intelligence, diffused and insured to all classes; and Equality and Impartiality under and before the law; these are the elements on which public opinion depends for its growth and its potency.

It has, as we have before said, a very modest and humble origin in the unconscious and unobserved individual mind. Here it is, perhaps unwittingly, fostered and trained, till its time and opportunity for "coming out" arrives. Then it coalesces with similar developments in other minds. This process goes on from time to time, in every case adding to its area and momentum, till it ultimately becomes a mighty force. "The weight of public opinion" is a phrase that has long since passed into a proverb. When public opinion clearly manifests its will, woe to the citizen who disregards its admonitions, or who attempts to obstruct its mandates.

A public officer, or a political aspirant, failing to perceive the rising tide of opposition to him, or his measures, will surely be swept away as with a besom of destruction.

The tendency of public sentiment and its growing strength are frequently discerned long before it declares its fiat. This is perhaps most evident in political matters. When great public measures are under consideration then nervous and timid men, and especially demagogues, are on the *qui vive* to catch every evidence of favoring currents and every sound of impending storms.

We have alluded in our first paper on the subject to two stages in the formation or growth of public opinion. We now speak of a third stage. This is by public meetings for comparison of views, and debate of questions. This is valuable as a means to ventilate individual thoughts, to harmonize varied sentiments, and then to concentrate them into one solid opinion. This would, of course, determine and express the prevailing sentiments of that meeting on the question considered; but, except for the community which these men represented, and for a local question, which concerned only that community, it would not be public opinion.

It is true, the large and more populous the district which the meeting should represent, and the more general the application of the question, the more would it approximate to an expression of public opinion. A large mass meeting, for instance, fairly convened in a great city to discuss a public measure affecting the interests of the city, if unanimous, or nearly so, might be considered a true index of the public mind. If it were a question bearing alike upon the interest of every part of the State, and still less if it were a National question, such a meeting could not be taken as a certain exponent of public opinion.

This method, however, would become more significant if such mass meetings were held in various sections of the State about the same time. Still we know that this recourse to mass meetings is quite rare and very difficult to bring about. Therefore there must of necessity be found some better or more convenient way to decide what public opinion is on any given or important

question. An attempt to solve this problem will be the aim of our next and last paper on this subject.

TOWN MEETING IN BLOOMFIELD.

Last Monday evening, at a full meeting of citizens, including the "bone and sinew," as well as the "brain and muscle" of the town, the committee previously appointed, through their Chairman, C. J. Turner, presented a draft of a bill, in 18 sections, for the consideration of the meeting.

This bill was designed as an improvement on the East Orange law for grading and paving streets, &c. It appeared to be drawn up with much care and was very comprehensive and minute in its provisions, a synopsis of which, we herewith give from memory.

It confers all powers respecting laying out, opening, straitening, closing, grading, curbing, paving of streets in this town, upon the Town Committee. They may cut through any person's property, yard, garden or buildings; they alone are to assess the damages to any property, and they are to estimate the benefits to any person, and in either case to appoint the equivalent. We believe, however, that unless the owners of three-fifths of the lineal feet apply to have a street paved, the Town Committee are not obliged to order it. We think the bill places no restrictions upon the expenditure of money for surveying, mapping and other work connected with this vast undertaking—not even requiring contracts to be made with the lowest competing bidder; if responsible, nor providing for auditing of bills and accounts involving hundreds of thousands of dollars. The Town Committee are then authorized to bond the town, in their discretion, not exceeding \$300,000 at any one time, except, as we understood it, they may issue bonds in anticipation of taxes, pending their collection.

These "Road Bonds" are to run through a period of ten years, and one-tenth of the amount, together with one year's interest on the total amount of bonds, is to be raised by tax annually. But this tax, to defray the cost and expenses of any road improvement, is to be assessed upon the property benefited, that is, bordering on that particular street. Real Estate assessed for road improvements is to be exempted from other road tax for five years.

This is a succinct statement of the provisions of the bill, which was first read through very distinctly and impressively by Mr. Turner, and then taken up section by section, patiently considered for two hours, and slightly amended in two or three instances, and passed by an overwhelming vote.

The bill was sent on Tuesday to our honorable representative, Mr. Samuel Wilde, who immediately introduced it in the Legislature, with a good prospect of its being put through this session. We sincerely hope it may be first amended in those sections where it is so unguarded in the care and disbursement of monies, in the want of due economy in making contracts, and in lack of proper checks in securing equitable assessments.

The measure has our most hearty support and endorsement. This may indeed be regarded a great day in the history of Bloomfield. It will only require prudent management of the important trusts and responsibilities, which this bill confers upon our Town Committee, to secure for themselves a name and renown that will ever be associated with these great improvements.

IMPORTANT R. R. CONNECTION.

A strong company, with a paid-in capital of \$10,000,000, and a like sum in bonds, are building an Air-line R.R. from Chicago to Duluth—a distance of some 300 miles—to be called the Chicago and Northern Pacific Air-Line Railway. This will virtually make Chicago the eastern terminus of the Great Northern Pacific Rail Road, which is rapidly stretching itself westward to the Pacific.

It is hard to get ahead of Chicago. The instinctive sagacity and irrepressible enterprise of her people are hardly equalled by those of any other city or town in the Union. Unless, indeed, we except our own Bloomfield and Montclair, whose late giant strides forward, in the march of improvement, give sure indication of the greatness which is in the near future for us.

TYPE SETTING.

We were quite mortified to find so many typographical errors in our last number, the more so because we had taken special pains to read the proof. Knowing the difficulty of getting really competent and careful typesetters, and the great interest our good printers, Messrs. WILKINS & CO., take in our GAZETTE, we could not scold; and we have no doubt that our intelligent readers, instead of complaining of the many errors of the press, would admire its wonderful correctness if they

would make a calculation and ascertain the number of types that are to be taken up out of little heaps and set in the right order, with proper spaces, points and marks, to fill such a sheet as this. Recollect that each letter is picked up separately by the fingers, then set the right end and the right side up, then put into its row, and so by as slow a process as that of the ant in building its house, the work goes on until the line and the column, the page and the paper are full. It is a marvel to us now, after seeing the process these many years, that so few blunders rather than that so many are made.

The N. Y. Observer brings together in its last issue a number of rather amusing instances of the freaks of the types, or the carelessness of compositors. We quote some of them.

Rev. Dr. Bethune on one occasion, after a public address in which he had said, "while men were idle, the devil sowed tares," found himself reported in the papers as saying "the devil sowed trees."

The Rev. Wm. Jay, preaching from the text, "skin for skin; yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life," was made to say, in the printed report, "all that he hath will he give for his wife."

Rev. Dr. Gildersleeve in describing the reluctance of sympathizing friends to leave the ground, at the conclusion of the burial of a loved one, was printed as saying: "disconsolate friends stood riveted to the spot!"

"The desolate hath many more children than she which hath a hundred," was printed instead of husband, as in Gal. 4: 27.

For the Saturday Gazette.

THE DEATH PENALTY.

Many eminent men have advocated the total abolishment of the death penalty, and some have contended that its existence on the statute book, is a disgrace to any civilized community, and that it never did, nor never will diminish the number of murderers. If we admit the death sentence to be a relic of barbarism, and afterwards discover that its existence affords human society protection from the assaults of men of hardened character, it should be retained as a blessing, rather than be extinguished as a curse.

The protection of each member of society has always been the object in view in establishing penal codes, and if this result be not attained, then the law becomes a mockery. If the legislature of every State in the Union were to enact a law abolishing the death penalty, and the Federal authorities were to adopt the same measure in reference to the crime of Treason and Piracy, the ratio in which these offences would increase might demonstrate the restraining influence of the death penalty.

To a person of refined sensibilities there is something of unmingled horror in a civil execution. The ghastly details are commented upon by the public prints even to the last spasm of agony, and very few who read would hesitate to pronounce it barbarous in the extreme. The consideration of the public good, however, must prevail even at the cost of personal feeling, and if the frequent recurrence of executions prevent the commission of malignant crimes, every sound moralist must pronounce in its favor.

If the laws were certain in their action, for certainty and not severity, carries a dread of punishment, the number of deeper offences would soon be reduced, and become comparatively rare. In this country, the enforcement of the death penalty seems absolutely necessary to the security of every citizen. If in every State the commission of murder should be quickly followed by the sentence of death, there would be much more protection afforded than if the offenders were imprisoned for life.

In most of the States, a change of Governor, or not a change in political sentiment, takes place once in two years. Place a man in the Penitentiary, and his chances for pardon are often of such a character that he actually begins to count the days when he shall again be at liberty to commit the second offence, with the Executive pardon in his pocket.

While there exists the remotest chance for Executive clemency, the laws become powerless in the prevention of crime. Among so many chances of escaping, the needy and bare-faced offender overlooks the few who suffer; he boldly engages in some desperate attempt to relieve his wants or supply his vices; and if unexpectedly the hand of justice overtakes him, he deems himself peculiarly unfortunate, in failing at last a sacrifice to those laws, which long impunity had taught him to despise.

The indifference often manifested by the public is hurtful to the administration of justice. At one time public sentiment sinks into lethargy and murderers escape unpunished. At another it shakes off this feeling with indig-

nation and fiercely demands the speedy death of all who happen to be convicted of capital offence. This is all wrong, for it deprives a man of all chance founded in natural reason or law. That it is essentially wrong to hang a man to the scaffold before his guilt appears, no one will doubt; but once guilty of murder he becomes a bane to society and as such, should be exterminated.

When the evidence of a man's guilt admits of no doubt, his hope should end when his conviction becomes a fact. No changes of venue, motions for new trials, bills of exceptions, or motions in arrest of judgment should be tolerated. If this system of certainty in the administration of criminal law, were once inaugurated, well-defined and understood, the commission of crime would be no longer regarded as a fine art, but as a perilous undertaking. The recent clamor for the enforcement of the death penalty in New York, and the conviction and sentence of Stokes and Foster prove the tendency of public opinion, and that the people are becoming sensible that some movement toward reform is necessary.

No one should be made the victim of excited public sentiment, nor should he fall under the influence of the press. The people in demanding the death of these men, are only crying for a better, purer, and more even administration of the criminal laws; and in order to render the commission of murder a matter of real danger, the public must first become conscious that we have first, a complete code of criminal procedure, and secondly, a judiciary who will tolerate no shuffling in its administration. If the punishment of death seems to oppose the injunction "thou shalt not kill," we have only to consider that it was made for human protection, for following hard upon it, comes the stern decree, "whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed."

NON PACIFICUS.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

TO OUR FRIENDS AND THE PUBLIC.—We hope the citizens of Bloomfield, Montclair and vicinity will realize that the SATURDAY GAZETTE is their Local Organ and Exponent. We intend that you shall have no reason to be ashamed of it, and we believe it will gain credit for these towns every week. It will be a life-like photograph, or topographical chromo of these villages, under different aspects, standing out in bold relief from time to time, until our character and attractions become widely and familiarly known.

Is it not entitled to your cordial and generous support? Its subscription list ought to be doubled at once. Will not its friends help us in this effort? Speak a good word for it to your neighbor. Subscription Lists will be found at your Post Office, or names may be sent to the publisher, Bloomfield. See terms at top of last column.

It is also desirable that the business of these towns should be well represented in its advertising columns. This will exhibit an important phase of our towns to their advantage. The business constitutes much of the life of the place, and its exhibition in your GAZETTE, will be an attraction to those seeking homes in the country. Why should not every store and business of our towns have a card at least in the advertising columns? The cost is small, and the returns in each case are sure to come, in one form or another, with large increase. We will be glad to have prompt response to this call.

We propose our columns as a good medium through which to make known WANTS of all kinds. Those in want of servants—and those in want of places, can make it known in this way at a small expense, 25 to 50 cents.

Our Boarding Houses and Hotels should all be made known by advertisement. We are now printing 2,000 copies each week, furnishing large facility for advertisers.

A USEFUL INVENTION.—Some of the most useful inventions are the simplest and the closest to common work-day life. We call attention to another alleviation of the old time "washing day" in the WASHING CLOTHES-LINE, advertised in our columns. We have one hundred and fifty feet of the line in use, regarding it as truly a time, labor, and money-saving invention, and would advise all housekeepers to procure it without delay.

CORRESPONDENCE.—A communication dated Berlin merits thoughtful consideration.

CONTINENTAL REPUBLIC.—France has been trying to establish a Republican Government ever since the late war which overthrew Napoleon. She is making considerable progress, but yet many sagacious statesmen doubt the success of the effort. It is believed that her people are too versatile and volatile to settle down to the sober work of self-government. We shall have to wait a while longer before we venture an intelligent opinion. We certainly wish the largest success to the measure.

And now we have within ten days, authentic tidings that Spain has effected without disturbance, a complete revolution in her government. Nothing less than a harmonious determination of all departments of the government to relinquish the monarchical forms, and adopt a Republican style of government.

It is said, by perhaps competent judges, that Spain is much better prepared for this change than France. This we confess is contrary to our preconceived notions of that priest ridden and uneducated people. But we shall look with great interest and hope for favorable developments in this direction. Castelar's circular announcing the establishment of the Republic says: "Neither internal nor foreign pressure moved the National Assembly to declare the Republic. The people are tranquil, the army obedient, the authorities calm. The Government is resolved to preserve order at any price. It relies on the respect for law inherent in Spaniards, and the fidelity of the army. Spain possesses all the virtues necessary for self-government."

BLOOMFIELD LOCAL.

Churches.
BAPTIST.—Rev. W. F. Stubbett, D. D. Pastor.
METHODIST.—Rev. H. Spellmeyer, Pastor.
EPISCOPAL.—S. J. Danner, Rector.
WORTHYMAN PRESS.—Rev. D. Kennedy, D. D. Pastor.
PRESBYTERIAN.—Rev. C. E. Knox, Pastor.
GERMAN PRESS.—Rev. J. M. Esselin, Pastor.
WATERSIDE METHOD.—W. J. Hullison, Pastor.
WATERSIDE EPISC. CHAPEL.—Sunday service at 4 P.M.

We understand there has been a transfer of property on "Park Avenue," particulars of which have not transpired.

The alterations going on in the Morris & Essex Depot amount to an entire renovation and re-arrangement of the interior. Two large reception Rooms, communicating with Ticket Office opening to each, is a great improvement. It is hoped that the seating will be ample and comfortable and the window light abundant. The old depot lacked pretty much everything that was desirable.

We are hoping to have an office for the convenience and needs of our GAZETTE business—near the centre of the village, as soon as we can arrange for it in the right place.

MONTCLAIR LOCAL.

Churches.
PRESBYTERIAN.—Rev. J. Romeyn Bertr. D. D. Pastor.
METHODIST.—Rev. James Ayers, Pastor.
EPISCOPAL.—Rev. James L. Maxwell, Rector.
CONGREGATIONAL.—Rev. A. H. Bradford, Pastor.
UNITARIAN.—Rev. J. B. Harrison, Pastor.
ROMAN CATHOLIC.—Rev. Titus Joalin Pastor.

We understand that Mr. Watren has bought twelve acres near his residence this week, at a foreclosure sale, for \$1,500 per acre.

Our Assemblyman, Mr. Samuel Wilde, has about completed his fine stone mansion on Fullerton Avenue.

Mr. Pillsbury's fine house on Mountain Ave., adjoining Mrs. Loyd's, is drawing to wards completion.

We think the citizens of Montclair can judge of the ability and manly fairness of the GAZETTE to supply the wants of that village as a local newspaper, and to bear its name abroad with honor and credit. No pains will be spared to accomplish our mission in those respects. We only ask the liberal support of our subscription list.

Our arrangements for Montclair correspondence are not quite perfected. We hope to secure the services of an educated and experienced writer as our resident associate editor there.

Mr. Delos Culver, Vice-President of the Midland R. R. Co., has rented Mr. Hart's house on Mountain Avenue.

CALDWELL.

We are greatly obliged to the friends in this beautiful village, who take an interest in our GAZETTE. We shall do our best to make it their local paper and earnestly invite its citizens to help us in its circulation there. Let us have at least fifty subscribers there, at once. The Postmaster will receive names and money—and we will send receipts as soon as notified.

We shall be glad to receive advertisements of business, or property there.

Correspondence from Caldwell, in reference to its local affairs, and communications from its competent writers on all subjects will be welcomed.

Sleighting has been fine here, we understand, all winter, and still continues good.

A pedlar named James Avery, of Caldwell, was arrested, charged with the murder of William Kohlman, whose body was found in the woods at Caldwell, last July, with two bullet wounds in the head. Avery's wife gave the information which led to the arrest.

LITERARY NOTICES.

HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE.—It is not new news, however, having already entered upon its 46th volume. We remember when it started and we count now a few others that flourished then, or since, which accomplished their short pilgrimage and have made their final exit. But Harper's Magazine continues its monthly visits, crowded with interesting articles, and appears as fresh and vigorous and useful as ever, and even more so. The February has been lying on our table for some time. Its contents are unusually interesting. They include serial stories by Miss Thackeray and by Wilkie Collins; Life in the diamond fields; Mary Queen of Scots; Life of an Eastern Woman; Delusions of Medicine; these four and another

finely illustrated, with numerous shorter articles, Editor's Notes, &c., make a rich treat for the month.

THE ECLECTIC MAGAZINE for February has its usual collection of interesting and instructive choice articles, selected from the best foreign Magazines. The table includes The Progress of Medicine and Surgery; The Royal Favorites of France; Too Soon, a serial novel by Macquoid; Goethe; The Senators of Treves; Dogs whom I have met; The Chaldean account of the Deluge; Middlemarch; The Irish Brigade; Quacks; Talleyrand; Editors Notes, &c.

MONTCLAIR CORRESPONDENCE.

MONTCLAIR Feb. 27, 1873.
The GAZETTE received a warm welcome last Saturday from our citizens, and Montclair people are very willing to adopt it as their organ and exponent of their local interests and public affairs.

OBITUARY.—The death of Edmund R. de Lusse one of our circle of young people whose manly bearing, manners and social qualities endeared him to many, was a crushing blow to his family and has cast a deep gloom over the large circle of his friends. His prospects were bright and promising for a long and useful life. We trust our severe loss is his everlasting gain.

The following resolutions drawn up by the member of the Hillside Social and presented to the family of Mr. De Lusse, as a token of sympathy.

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, by an inscrutable Providence to remove from our midst our friend and associate Edmund R. De Lusse, therefore Resolved—That while we mourn his loss and sympathize deeply with his afflicted family, we recognize the hand of an all wise Providence in this sudden and unexpected bereavement, which so strikingly exemplifies the uncertainty of life. Resolved—That the members of the Hillside Social hold no more receptions for the remainder of this winter, feeling to deeply the loss which we have sustained by the death of him whose presence added so much to the enjoyment of our circle.

Resolved—That we wear an appropriate token of mourning out of respect to him. Resolved—That a copy of these resolutions be filed away with the minutes of the Hillside Social. SIGNED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL.

A few of our large hearted philanthropists have organized a "Peoples' Association for the suppression of Intemperance; they propose to adopt a plan similar to that under which the Holly Tree Coffee Rooms" have been established and sustained, and in all cases with most gratifying and encouraging success. They are moving in a channel where there is a great opportunity to do good. We trust our citizens will give this association hearty aid and support more anon.

Last Friday evening Geo. McDonald delivered his lecture on "Robert Burns," in the Presbyterian Church, the large audience was made up in part of many friends from neighboring towns. The lecturer labored under a semi-indisposition which made his task a laborious one. The lecture though not all we expected of the author of the annals of a quiet neighborhood, still abounded in thoughts which showed him to be a scholar and a thinker. He gave a graphic description of the poet's early life, and said the hardships, trials and privations of his boyhood were the means used to fit him for his great work. He admonished young men to make something of their calling in life and bend all their energies to making that something a success.

He remarked that the poetry of Burns, partook of our every day life and related the anecdote of the servant who when ordered to prepare the best room for the poet's reception replied, "that he was no gentleman," he only wrote "The Cotters' Saturday Night," and that was about the same thing she had seen many times in her father's house. He said Burns taught us to find poetry around us wherever we are, and endless sympathy with man and creation, and that "a man's man for a poet." He remarked, Burns did much to preserve Scotland's old tunes. He adapted words to their old music and for their National Hymn and the preservation of many of their old Highland tunes, Scotchmen must thank Robert Burns. He closed by playing very charitably to the dark side of Burns' reputation. We have given you but a few of the many ideas and thoughts which made up the lecture.

The "Watchung Social" held a very pleasant and novel entertainment as a Valentine social last Tuesday evening the 26th at the residence of Mr. Hunt. A most enjoyable evening.

The young people of the Presbyterian Church have organized a social association. The first meeting was held at the home of Mr. Ripley on Monday evening the 17th inst.

NEWARK.

Correspondence of the Saturday Gazette.

VERONA, Feb. 26, 1873.

MEMPHIS, EDITORS.—Our little village is so quietly enmeshed between the hills, that it may be well to let your readers know where we are, before telling them what is going on here.

Between "first and second" mountains, lies one of the prettiest villages eyes ever gazed upon. It is about two miles wide and perhaps thirty long. In that part where it is crossed by what was formerly called the Turnpike, now Bloomfield Avenue, midway between Montclair and Caldwell, is our pretty village; we can boast of a church, school-house, store, blacksmith shop, post office, and most of the establishments that go to make up a country village. The steep hills between us and the cities have prevented outsiders

from visiting us very much; but the improvements on Bloomfield Avenue, and the tunnel, which is in course of excavation under First mountain, will, within a year, bring us into close proximity.

That is where we are; now for what we are doing. On the evening of the 26th of March, the ladies of the M. E. Church, will have an Oyster Supper and will be much pleased to have you and your friends give us a call. If you are fond of oysters you will find them here in due style; if not there will be an abundance of other good things to satisfy the inner man.—We are endeavoring to raise money for a new Church, and the prospects of success is very encouraging. Then as those who don't go to church must be taken care of, we are going to have a penitentiary built on the most prominent ground in Verona, so people can have their choice between the two. Several private residences are in course of erection. Mr. Charles Smith is building to sell, and so is Mr. Hiram Cook. The latter has erected four, three of which have been sold; and he is now putting up two more. The prospect is that building will be lively here this summer.

We have applied to the Legislature for an Act to set us off from Caldwell as a township by ourselves. This will form one of the most unique and homogeneous townships in the State, to which we expect people will be flocking from all quarters. Don't all come at once; give us time to make arrangements so as to accommodate you.

For the Saturday Gazette.

The Annual Meeting of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, connected with the First Presbyterian Church, was held on Tuesday, Feb. 18th. The prosperity of this new enterprise as shown by the Treasurer's report is very gratifying. The receipts have considerably exceeded in amount, the pledges made at the commencement of the year. There has been paid in to the Treasury of the Society \$447.00, including a donation of \$50.00 from the Sunday School. Encouraged by this success, the ladies hope to do still more in the year to come. OKS OF THEM. Bloomfield, Feb. 24th.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

BKLYN, FRIDAY, OCT. 1, 1872.

MR. EDITOR.—Your readers may perhaps be interested in an adventure I have recently gone through, and I therefore hasten to give you an account of it. You know I have been living here for some months now, and I have fortunately picked up considerable "Dutch," as well as formed some very warm friends. Among these friends is one Hans Gottschorfer who was formerly a sort of quarry to the great Otto von Bismarck. I believe Bismarck dismissed him for some insulting remark he once made about his (Bismarck's) humble origin, but of this I am not sure. He is a very intelligent man for one of his station in society, and I have been enabled through him to gain a better acquaintance with this foreign life than I could possibly have done in any other way. But lest I should be betrayed into writing too long a letter, I must mention of various interesting matters at this time and tell you at once of my adventure. I had been very anxious to visit the royal palace and see with my own eyes how kings and princes lived at home.

Now Hans Gottschorfer owing to his former connection with Bismarck was well acquainted with all the ins and outs of the palace and knew not a few of the cooks, waiters, &c., that were in attendance at these, and he volunteered to guide me through their different apartments. We took advantage of a moonlight night while King William and his family were off at his country seat entertaining his imperial guests, the Czar Alexander and the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria.

We found upon entering the palace that nearly all the servants had gone off to a ball, on the principle of the cats being away, I suppose, so that we had an unobstructed range of nearly all the apartments. We had nearly finished and were pausing a few minutes in the private writing room of the Emperor's Secretary, when Hans, with an exclamation too profane to repeat, darted from my side and disappeared through a side door. I attempted to follow him but I could not succeed in opening the door for some reason or other, so I turned back to see the cause of his sudden exit. "Imagine my amazement to see enter the three Emperors of Germany Austria and Russia. I drew myself carefully behind the large curtains that hung from the window nearest me, and waited for them to pass. But instead of going out as I supposed they would, they sat themselves down and lighting some cigars, commenced to talk of the interests, relations, and future of their respective kingdoms. A pretty pickle, I was in, truly, and one to well cause me serious apprehension, but I soon became so absorbed in listening to their conversation that I totally forgot my danger and only felt fearful lest their discovering me might lead to its interruption. They talked in pure German so I had no trouble in following them. I think I could repeat their conversational material literally, but it would take too much space and time to do it now. But a brief narration of their plans for the next half dozen years thus disclosed to me, will not fail to command your attention. Let me then tell you first what part Prussia is to assume in the plan, and what she is to gain in territorial extension. Bismarck is to first make a speech at a *serenade* or something of the kind, in which he is to take strong grounds against the existence of little petty kingdoms and the danger Europe is constantly in because of wars about them. Then some excuse is to be got up for some quarrel picked with Denmark and it is to be compelled to annex it



THE SATURDAY GAZETTE
30 South Street
Bloomfield, N. J.
1880